

The Examiner asserts that Tajiri discloses “a monitoring photodiode (5) mounted on the second mount surface of the substrate and having a light-receiving surface which receives light emitted from the light emission point (see figure 2), and a relay electrode connected to the electrode of the laser diode by a metal wire.” Specifically, the Examiner points to Figure 4 of Tajiri as making this disclosure. Applicants respectfully submit that Tajiri provides no such disclosure.

Initially, applicants note that reference numeral 5 of Tajiri does not identify a monitoring photodiode as recited in claim 1, but is instead used to identify a “photodetector for signal detection ... [which] detects a return beam (reflected light) returning from a reflection type optical recording medium.” (Col. 12, lines 4-6 and 25-27) Tajiri instead uses reference numeral 3a to identify a PIN-type monitoring photodiode. However, Tajiri’s monitoring photodiode 3a is not formed on a second mount surface as recited in claim 1, but is instead mounted on the submount (heat sink) 3 on which the laser diode 4 is also mounted (col. 12, lines 11-12). Accordingly, claim 1 is allowable over Tajiri.

Additionally, with regard to the photodiode 3a, Figure 4 does not show the electrode of the photodiode 3a connected to the electrode of the laser device 4 using a metal wire as recited in claim 1, nor does the specification of Tajiri disclose or suggest such a feature. Instead, Figure 4 of Tajiri shows the electrode of the photodiode 3a connected to transit electrode 10 by a bonding wire, while the electrode of the laser device 4 is shown connected to transit electrode 11 by a bonding wire (col. 13, lines 28-33). Accordingly, claim 1 is allowable over Tajiri. Claims 4, 5, 8, 13 and 14 depend from allowable claim 1 and are therefore allowable due at least to their respective dependencies.

The remaining claims, claims 2, 3, 6, 7 and 10-12 stand variously rejected under 35 USC 103(a) on Tajiri in view of Wang (U.S. Patent No. 6,574,254), Jiang (U.S. Patent No. 6,115,398), Shiimoto (U.S. Patent No. 6,456,635), Deacon (U.S. Patent Publication No. 2003/0210718) and Yoshida (U.S. Patent No. 5,359,619). Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections.

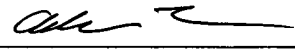
None of the additional references overcome the deficiencies of Tajiri with respect to the “monitoring photodiode mounted on the second mount surface of the substrate and having a light-receiving surface which receives light emitted from the light emission point, and a relay electrode connected to the electrode of the laser diode by a metal wire” as recited in claim 1, nor has the Examiner cited the references as disclosing or suggesting such features. Accordingly, claims 2, 3, 6, 7 and 10-12, which depend from allowable claim 1, are also allowable due at least to their respective dependencies.

Applicants respectfully solicit an early action allowing the claims.

In the event the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicants petition for any required relief, including extensions of time, and authorize the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to Deposit Account No. 03-1952 referencing Attorney Docket No. 204552030600.

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Respectfully submitted,

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